THE FOLLOWING IS THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THE AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS OF THE INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION UNDER PCT ARTICLE 19:

AMENDED SHEETS (Pages 15-17).

CLAIMS

1. (Amended) An audio reproduction method when reproducing audio data to which character data for displaying a character having a specific shape and motion data for indicating motion of the character having the shape specified by said character data are added, comprising the steps of:

generating data on an image having the shape specified by said character data by analyzing the character data, and

displaying the generated image data correspondingly to the reproduction of said audio data in accordance with the motion indicated by said motion data,

wherein said character data is data on the shape of each part of said character and said motion data indicates where a specific part of said character is altered and displayed at a coordinate position at a specific time in audio reproduction.

2. (Deleted)

3. An audio reproduction method according to claim 1,

wherein said character data is data on a character having a three-dimensional shape, and based on a predetermined input operation the character to be displayed is made into a character having a shape seen from an arbitrary viewpoint.

4. (Amended) An audio reproduction apparatus comprising:

retaining means for retaining audio data to which character data for displaying a character having a specific shape and motion data for indicating motion of the character having the shape specified by said character data are added,

audio reproducing means for processing to reproduce the audio data retained in said retaining means,

image processing means for generating data on an image having the shape specified by the character data by analyzing the character when the character data is added to the audio data reproduced in said audio reproducing means, and

display means for displaying image data generated in said image processing means correspondingly to the reproduction in said audio reproducing means in accordance with the motion indicated by said motion data,

wherein said character data is data on the shape of each part of said character and said motion data indicates where a specific part of said character is altered and displayed at a coordinate position at a specific time in audio reproduction.

5. (Deleted)

6. An audio reproduction apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the character data added to the audio data

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retained in said retaining means is data on a character having a three-dimensional shape,

operating means for indicating a viewpoint toward the character having a three-dimensional shape is provided, and

based on the viewpoint indicated by said operating means, the image data generated in said image processing means is made into an image of a character seen from the viewpoint.

7. (Added) An audio reproduction method according to claim 1,

wherein said motion data is described in VRML (Virtual Reality Modeling Language).

8. (Added) An audio reproduction apparatus according to claim 4,

wherein said motion data is described in VRML (Virtual Reality Modeling Language).